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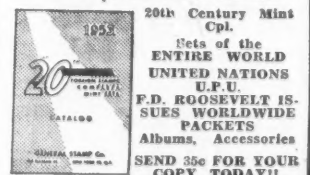
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VATICAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY OFFICERS

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Treasurer—Frederick J. Levitsky, 121 Bailey Street Worcester, Mass.
Editor—Catherine R. Hughes, 537 E. Frederick St., Lancaster, Pa.

The Vatican Philatelic Society welcomes all collectors interested in the stamps of the Vatican to membership. The fees are quite nominal and the benefits are many. Data otherwise difficult of obtainment is carried regularly in the pages of the Society's official organ, "Vatican Notes".

All correspondence should be sent to the Secretary. Annual dues is \$1.50 a year plus a 50c special fund fee to provide items of importance to members.

The Vatican Philatelic Society

The Vatican Philatelic Society was organized in 1953 by several collectors of Vatican City and Roman States stamps. Active in the group were William Wonneberger, Jr. of Stratford, Conn.; Robert W. Kessens of Fort Wayne, Ind.; Edward P. Fichter of Reading, Pa.; Rev. Herbert A. Phinney of Roxbury, Mass.; Rev. C. Luke Leiternmann of Phlox, Wis. Mr. Wonneberger was the first president of the society and is its charter member No. 1. He was also the first editor of the VATICAN NOTES, the society's monthly publication, the first issue of which appeared in June 1953.

The Vatican Philatelic Society is a group of collectors who are interested in the stamps of the Vatican City State and the Roman States. Prior to its organization there were groups in other societies devoted to these stamp issues. However, such groups were relatively small parts of the parent organizations, so that publication of material related to Vatican City stamps and help for collectors in this field was necessarily limited.

It was believed that a separate group interested only in the issues of Vatican City and the Roman States would be advantageous to collectors. The Vatican Philatelic Society was, therefore, formed in 1953 for this purpose.

The society's journal, the VATICAN NOTES, is published monthly. Catherine R. Hughes of Lancaster, Pa. took over the editorship in December 1953 and has done an excellent job.

Advance information on new Vatican City stamp issues is published in the NOTES, as well as information on new errors and varieties.

A regular feature in the NOTES is the Bookshelf, which lists books and pamphlets related to Vatican City and its stamps. Information on where to obtain all books is given along with prices and a short description of the contents. Such listings are very helpful in obtaining literature for the study of Vatican City stamps and building up a reference library.

Another feature of the NOTES is the Italian Phrase Column which was originated by Hugo S. Barberia of North Hollywood, Calif. Italian words and phrases pertaining to philately are listed in this column along with their English translations.

Articles presenting background information on Vatican City issues have appeared in the NOTES. A very complete story on the Council of Trent issue covering twelve pages was published. Also, articles have appeared on the stamps commemorating the Dogma of the Assumption; Casimira Dabrowska, first woman Vatican stamp designer; The Dome of The Basilica of Saint Peter; Saint Bernard; 1936 Catholic Press Conference stamps; and the Vatican Post Office.

An excellent article on the historical background of the Roman States and Vatican City by Father Leiternmann was included in a recent issue. A brief presentation of background information on all Vatican City issues is now being published in the NOTES in serial form. Installments will appear each month until all issues have been covered.

As an aid to the members, the society recently purchased copies of a sixty-four page booklet entitled "The Vatican" which were distributed free to all members. This booklet contained a brief history of the Vatican along with many illustrations. The society also purchased maximum cards of the Saint Maria Goretti issue which were sent to all members.

A project undertaken by the society which, when finished, should be helpful to both beginner and advanced collectors of Vatican City and Roman States stamps is the preparation of a catalog. This catalog will present a complete listing of Vatican City and Roman States stamps and postal stationery, and will include many items not listed in Scott's Catalog.

To obtain the most complete listings European catalogs are being translated. A special committee was formed to obtain information on all known errors and varieties. This committee was headed by Peter K. Murphy of Winchester, Mass. who was assisted by Mr. Wonneberger, Leo A. Stevens of

Detroit, Mich., Paul O'Connell of Seattle, Wash., and Peter J. Gillen of St. Paul, Minn.

The data obtained by the committee has been turned over to Father Leiternmann and Mr. Wonneberger, who are now preparing the Vatican City section of the catalog. All members will receive copies of the catalog when completed.

The Vatican Philatelic Society is a small organization with membership of only 141. The officers believe, however, that a step has been taken in the right direction with the formation of this society to help encourage the collection of Vatican City and Roman States stamps. It is also believed that membership will increase in the future.

For collectors interested in these stamp issues, whether they be beginners or specialists, membership in the Vatican Philatelic Society should prove helpful.

Argentine Sports Two Years Late

Argentina has finally gotten a set of stamps on the market commemorating an event which took place in 1952. It is an 18-value release of airmails and ordinaries for the Pan American Games which were held there two years ago.

Denominations of the airmails are—40c, 50c, 1, 1.45, 1.60, 2.50, 3, 6 and 15 Pesos. The regulars are—30c, 45c, 70c, 80c, 1, 1.20, 1.80, 2.50, 5 and 10 Pesos. The total face is 54.10 Pesos, or \$11.36 in U. S. currency.

On August 17, this nation issued the first stamps of the new definitive series, a 20c picturing Gen. San Martin. Others are expected to appear rapidly, according to Gerardo Thoolen, Casilla 111, Buenos Aires, Argentina.

Five million commemoratives will be printed to note the centenary of famous Argentinian, F. Ameghino.

Argentina will also note the centenary of its first issue of stamps this year with a set of commemoratives and a souvenir sheet, plus an international philatelic exhibition. Expected to grace at least several of the designs are the portrait of PMG Pujol, responsible for the first stamps, and a reproduction of the first one.

Mr. Thoolen is authority for the news that Paraguay released a set of commemoratives on August 15 picturing a number of national heroes. Denominations of the regulars are 5c, 10c, 20c, 50c and 100c. Airmails are 5, 10, 20, 50 and 100 Guaranes. But 5000 of the 100G will be issued. A Guarnie is approximately equal to 3c U. S.

Highway Post Office Material At Auction

An auction of special interest to cover fans has been announced for October 5 by the National Highway Post Office Society, P.O. Box 342, Dayton 1, Ohio. Copies of the catalog can be requested from that address.

There are to be approximately 100 lots devoted strictly to HPO material including first trip and steel cancels, stationery; another 54 will offer miscellaneous lots of covers. The sale catalog is free—it will be mailed to all NHPOS members without their requesting it.

Shoemaker Moves To Sarasota, Florida

American Philatelic Society, Director-At-Large Lawrence D. Shoemaker, is asking friends and fellow members to take note of his new address.

It will be 440 Acacia Dr., Saphire Shores, Sarasota, Fla.

Malta, Zanzibar, St. Lucia Stamps

Zanzibar, St. Lucia and Malta all figure in recent philatelic news offered through A. J. E. Davis, Washington, D.C. representative of the Crown Agents.



The collection of islands off the east African Coast existing as Zanzibar is honoring the 75th birthday of the Sultan Khalifa bin Harub. Designs of the five are identical, they having a portrait of the ruler. Denominations and colors are 15c green, 20c red, 30c blue, 50c violet and 1.25S orange. Printing is by photogravure. Release day was August 26.



Malta's three commemorate the centenary of the Dogma of the Immaculate Conception. In the design is the central altar piece of the Collegiate Parish Church of Cospicua. Values and colors are 1 1/2d green, 3d blue, and 1/- gray. Printing is via photogravure—first day is September 8.



St. Lucia has added some new denominations and designs to its definitive series. With nothing but the portrait changed to that of Queen Elizabeth are the 3c red and 6c red orange. New denominations in this design are 8c claret, 10c blue and 15c chestnut.

In the same design, generally, as the 1949's are the following new items. Changes include that of the new royal cypher "E II R", value in top right corner only, and the badge of the colony raised to the optical center—25c azure, 50c olive, \$1 green and \$2.50 red. September 2 is the release date for these St. Lucia regulars.

Harrison & Sons, Ltd. produced all the above.

Designer, Engravers Of Two New Liberties

Revealed by the Post Office Department is the designer of both the 1c Washington and 2c Jefferson of the new Liberty series. He is Charles R. Chickering, veteran Bureau artist. The former had a first day at Chicago August 26—the latter makes its debut at San Francisco on September 15.

Also made known were the engravers of each. Richard M. Bower handled the portrait of the 1c; Charles A. Brooks, the frame; and John S. Edmondson, the lettering and numeral.

For the 2c, Charles A. Brooks engraved the frame and portrait; George A. Payne is responsible for the lettering and numeral.

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Varieties and Errors Of Vatican Stamps

William Wonneberger, Jr.

How many times have you attended a club meeting, convention, or any other gathering of stamp collectors and heard complaints about the varieties and errors which exist of the stamps of some governments? The usual remark is, "I wouldn't collect that stuff! It's only printers' waste!" More likely than not, collectors hearing this remark agree. Why? Have you ever taken the time to ascertain or refute such a statement?

Vatican collectors join the rest of the collecting fraternity in condemning the constant flow of imperfect printings of regularly perforated issues of stamps that seems to be a policy with some countries.

This is no more than another means of obtaining revenue for the issuing government. But what of the true varieties and errors? These are erroneously placed in the same classification. We know little of such material on the market of other countries but we do know the reason for varieties and errors existing from Vatican City. We are stating these reasons to have such material removed from the classification of racketeering.

Suppose we look at the varieties and minor errors first. In this classification we usually find shades, minute deviations, watermarks, etc. Yes, there is a legitimate reason for shade varieties as a result of different printings, we all agree to that. The minute deviations are usually broken letters, plate flaws, and paper.

These too exist in the stamps of practically every country, especially those which use the cheaper means of printing stamps, as lithograph and photogravure. Such material has come to light mostly because of speck hunting collectors in recent years. The old timers simply ignored such items—the modern collector prides himself on finding such differences.

Here we find the average collector responsible for the listing of such material, not the government or dealer.

Major errors consist of imperfect copies, shifted centers, missing perforations and the like. These are due to a number of reasons and not all honorable. Here is the reason we find such material in some of the Vatican issues.

From 1929 to the early part of 1940 major errors of Vatican stamps were few and far between, most of the issues had none at all. If we take a look at the world situation at that time you will find the world more or less at peace and good workmanship available. Therefore little of this material came from the Vatican, far less than from other countries.

From 1940 to late 1945 and the beginning of 1946, such material as imperfs and bad registration existed for a majority of Vatican stamps. Again we look to the world situation to find the reason. At that time Italy was at war and it took much of the population to fill military needs. The occupations not contributing greatly to the war effort were robbed of the skilled workmen necessary for good work.

As most of the Vatican stamps were printed at the State Printing Office in Rome, the issues were subject to poor workmanship in inexperienced hands with the lack of good machinery and replacement parts aiding greatly to the task of printing good stamps. The relationships between the Vatican and Fascist governments were quite bad and might account for more of the poor workmanship. Therefore the otherwise scrap material was placed on sale at the post office to be sold as postage stamps.

Much of this material was purchased by collectors and dealers and found its way on the market. To further offset the charge that it was purchased from unscrupulous printers is the fact that commercial covers exist with such material used for postal fees. Ignorance of the value placed on imperf stamps and shifted centers by collectors was the reason that it was ignored by the non-collecting sender and receiver. Would non-collectors go to the trouble of locating material of this nature and use it for postage to other non-collectors? Of course not, they purchased it from the post office.

With the end of World War II, the end of these major errors arrived. Since then the majority of issues are normal in every respect, and only two major errors have been reported. The philatelic press gave this wide publicity, something they would not do unless it was really out of the ordinary.

The post war years do continue to have a few minor varieties as a result of speck hunting. It can be readily observed that

the varieties and errors of Vatican City stamps are due to the conditions that existed beyond their control and not due to a plan to get a little more money from collectors.



HENRY M. FRIEDMAN
Box 21 Planetarium Sta.,
New York 24, N. Y.

AUSTRALIA. In November, Australia will issue a 3½ pence stamp, to mark their interest and development in the Antarctic region. Since 1947 Australia has maintained scientific stations on Macquarie and Heard Islands and recently established a third station, named Mawson.

This special stamp which will remain on sale for several months, will show the emblem of Australia's Antarctic Division, with the words, "Australian National Antarctic Research Expeditions." Small supplies will be sent to meet the requirements of the personnel at the three stations.

In view of the limited facilities, postmasters at the Antarctic post offices, will be unable to supply mint stamps, or to meet requests that stamps be attached to covers and cancelled. Arrangements have been made for all such orders and requests to be accepted at the Philatelic Bureau, General Post Office, Melbourne, Australia.

Collectors can arrange for covers to be carried to any one of the three Antarctic post offices, postmarked there and returned as opportunity offers.

WEST INDIES UNIVERSITY COLLEGE. This series of sixteen stamps are popular and in demand. They are available now at a low price, and higher prices can be expected. "Fynden" in Stamp Collecting (London) gives this set of sixteen stamps, mint or used, as the "Week's Good Find."

Fiji. Various philatelic writers (including this column) have mentioned that the 10 shilling and Pound stamps, No. 143-144 are scarce and may prove to be a sound investment. Now that the Elizabeth stamps have been released, the demand for the obsolete stamps has increased and they will not long remain at the current retail price of about \$6.00 for the pair.

MAURITIUS. This colony released, on August 2, a new 60c value of the Elizabeth series and this stamp is now required in order to complete your Elizabeth set of this colony.

HONG KONG. The 5c on 8c stamp No. 31 with inverted surcharge is priced by Scott, used, at \$750, and by Gibbons, used, at 95 Pounds (\$266). At a recent auction sale in London, a used copy sold for 75 Pounds (\$210).

Evidently Scott's price of \$750 for a used copy is too high.

MAURITIUS. It is difficult to determine the real value of these old stamps by reference to the catalogue prices. Scott's 6B of Mauritius is priced by Scott at \$400 mint and \$75 used. The same stamp is priced by Gibbons at 40 to 150 Pounds used.

At a recent Harmer auction sale in London, an unused copy of this stamp sold for 250 Pounds or \$700. The description unused usually refers to a copy without gum.

S.I.P. Chapter Will Meet September 15

The Hudson Mohawk Chapter No. 1 of the Society of Israel Philatelists will resume meetings on September 15 with a dinner session at Jack's Restaurant in Albany, N. Y. A speaking program has been planned.

Officers of the group are president Fabius Schmerler; Irving Rosenberg vice president; secretary-treasurer Leon Cheris, 28 Clayton Pl., Albany 9, N. Y.

VPS Members Collect Roman States Stamps

When the Vatican Philatelic Society was formed in 1953, a provision was made to include the issues of the predecessor of Vatican City, the Roman States. The need for such a program increased as members requested more data on these stamps when personal efforts disclosed no ready references. The officers of the society began a search for a serious student of this segment of philately to provide the needed information.

The search ended in July 1954, when the renowned Roman States cover collector, Louis Klein joined the society to provide a reliable source of information in this field. A committee is being formed from the advanced collectors of Roman States with Mr. Klein as chairman.

This committee will make available a series of articles covering the various phases of the field as well as a number of articles to aid the beginner in forming a Roman States collection. The information will appear monthly in the VATICAN NOTES, official V.P.S. publication.

In addition to supplying background stories and advice to beginners, Mr. Klein will also examine Roman States covers for members of the Vatican Philatelic Society. As interest gains in popularity, the society will devote a full share of its publications and efforts to this field.

Philatelic Foundation Will Send Bulletin

The September issue of the Philatelic Foundation Bulletin includes a report on new varieties and discoveries, with illustrations, details of recent donations to the Reference Collections, and of the Foundation exhibits.

A specimen copy will be mailed to those sending a request to the Philatelic Foundation, 22 E. 35th St., New York 16, N. Y.

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Aug. 31—Hobbs Stamp Co., 38 Park Row, New York 38, N. Y. United States, mint, used, wholesale, sheets

Sept. 6—Stampazine, 315 W. 42nd St., New York 36, N. Y. U. S. British Colonies, General Foreign, Covers.

Sept. 13—Stampazine, 315 W. 42nd St., New York 36, N. Y. U. S. British Colonies, General Foreign, Covers.

Sept. 13—John Balter & Co., 168 W. 46th St., New York 36, N. Y. U. S. incl. matched positions and plates Foreign

Sept. 17—Ralph Orton, 116 Nassau St., New York 38, N. Y. U. S. incl. 19th Columbians, sheets, plates.

Sept. 20—Stampazine, 315 W. 42nd St., New York 36, N. Y. U. S. British Colonies, General Foreign, Covers.

Sept. 20—Billig & Rich Inc., 55 W. 42nd St., New York 36, N. Y. U. S. Puerto Rico, India, Mexico, Vatican.

Sept. 20—H. R. Harmer, Inc., 32 E. 57th St., New York 22, N. Y. United States and General Foreign.

Sept. 24—Herman Herst, Jr., Shrub Oak, N. Y. United States, British Colonies, mint airmails.

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CLOSING DATE for new copy or change, Wednesday noon, for publication second Monday following.

LEWIS F. TURLEY
Advertising Manager

An Appeal To The American Stamp Dealers' Association

Elsewhere in this issue of our paper we reprint an article taken from Gibbons Stamp Monthly of July 1, 1954. We have reproduced with the exception of one stamp, the illustration as used by Gibbons also. Reason we do not print the other illustration is because we bought sets of only the triangles that were offered and not of the other shapes.



GEORGE W. LINN

Read the condemnation of these issues by Gibbons. They are not postage stamps. We admit frankly that we can not tell any stamp dealer what he can or can not sell or offer for sale, but we do contend that if any of these labels are offered that they should be specifically offered for what they are and not as legitimate postage stamps of any stamp issuing government.

Further than this we can and do refuse to permit any of these labels to be offered for sale through our columns unless each item as offered is described for what it is. We know that Topical packets are already in the market, loaded with this trash. We have no way of knowing if any packets offered contain any of these stamps, but we urge any buyer who finds such stamps in any packet he may buy to return them and demand good legitimate stamps in their place.

We have not yet looked into it but the fact that the British are looking into the matter of their Merchandise Marks Act, we believe that the sale of these labels unless offered for exactly what they are might come under our Fair Trades Law and that anyone offering them without fully explaining their status might be liable under that law.

The whole point however is that the offering and sale of this sort of material if it is to be continued, and continued it will be unless some effort is made to block it and block it completely, will do more damage to our hobby than will the Sperati material that has been much in the news lately. The amount of money that will be spent for trash of this nature by unsuspecting youngsters will be far more than is spent by experienced collectors for the Sperati trash.

This racket can be and should be squelched immediately.

We have an American Stamp Dealers' Association. I feel certain that the objects of this Association are to assist its members in dealing in STAMPS in a legitimate manner. I also feel that the Association has some interest in protecting the customers who support the members of the Association. If not then it is time for the Association to disband.

Otherwise the Association needs only to issue an appeal to all stamp publications as well as to the daily press which carries a stamp column and ask all of them to refuse to accept advertising offering any of these labels unless it is specifically stated in the offer that the items are not postage stamps, and that the offer must describe them for exactly what they are.

The Association could go farther and ask its members to refuse to deal in merchandise of this nature. We might also suggest that the Association, through its attorney look into the matter of the Fair Trade Practices Act and find out just how far one can go in placing merchandise of this nature in the market.

We regret to learn from what we have been able to see in the stamp press, that besides our own protest, the only other we have noted has come from Mekeels Weekly.

We believe it our duty as a publisher to make every effort to keep the hobby clean. We believe that every honorable stamp dealer in the United States will agree with us and approve our actions in this matter. We have been amazed that no American dealer has as yet voiced his disapproval of this sort of racketeering. Write us and state your opinion on these labels.

We know quite well that if some dealer over here started to dispose of a number of copies of the Sperati material and was finally caught in the act, that there would be a tremendous commotion over it and that every stamp paper in the country would print the news.

Well boys, here is the same thing worked on the youngsters and for plenty of money in the deal too.

A Few Brief Notes

A collector and student wants an answer to the following question. In the early days the postage rate on letters over 80 miles and not exceeding 150 was 12½ cents. For letters over 150 and not exceeding 400 miles, 18½ cents. The question is, how did one pay these odd amounts since we had not coins or currency with which to do it, except at one time we did have half cents.

Our opinion would be that since most of these letters were charged by the postmaster, that at the end of each month when an account was paid the odd amounts would work out even or at the most a small fraction which would be paid as a full cent. If there is any other explanation we will be glad to have it.

Now and then we get a letter from someone who fails to include his return address on his letter paper. It frequently happens that mail is opened, the envelope discarded and perhaps the letter laid aside for a day or two before it is answered. In that case when it is answered we look for an address and find none, then we can not answer the letter. This has happened with several letters at our home here in Howe and we merely mention it in the hope that correspondents will be more careful.

In reference to the three Local issues that have recently appeared here in the United States, we are reminded by Pat Herst of Shrub Oak, N. Y. that the one that he produced was the first of these issues. Pat carried on correspondence with the P. O. Department for over a year before he finally got consent to issue the Local. The regulations which provide for such issues are in the Postal Laws but Pat had a hard time convincing the powers that be that he could issue a Local.

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The following is a reproduction of an article which appeared in the July 1, 1954 edition of "Gibbons Stamp Monthly", Published by Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., London, England. It is referred to in our editorial this week, and was originally printed under the title of

"A Serious Racket"

Last December our contemporary "Stamp Collecting," recorded under the heading of "Bogus Stamps" sets of labels from "Free" Croatia "Free" Albania and South Moluccas, to warn collectors of their actual status, should they be offered in this country. At that time they had already started to trickle through, but they are now here in quantity, and further issues have been made, so we feel that it is high time that we helped to make it clear that they are absolute rubbish.

They have been privately printed in the United States for the so-called free governments of these places. Even if we assume that these exiled governments exist (and on this point we have no information either way) there are no postal services for which these labels could be legitimately used, and they undoubtedly comprise a complete racket, intended to make easy money for their sponsors, if an unsuspecting and unenlightened philatelic world accepts them as postage stamps.

The two British trade associations are much perturbed as to what is happening, and have formed a joint committee to investigate the matter, but the labels originate in the United States and we trust that it will be here that the full light of publicity will show them up for what they are and that some action can be taken to ensure that no more are issued.

Here in Britain we can and will damn them, but unless there is sufficient strength of opinion in the States to fight against such issues successfully, they will continue to be made, and on this side of the Atlantic we shall still find them being handled by those who do not care what they offer, so long as it is saleable.

We are not at all happy about the attitude of the Americans toward these racketeering issues, for the now-famous front cover of Life for May 3rd showed several stamps which are of such doubtful origin that we will never accept them as legitimately issued postage stamps (including what is frankly called an "unrecognized South Moluccas") and whose inclusion we cannot help feeling was deliberate.

As we see it, what is happening is this. There are only limited profits to be made by dealing in legitimate new issues, stamps which are only available at face value and which, because of competition, can only be re-sold by dealers on a very small margin.

We have said this ourselves for many years! The answer of the "wise boys" is, "Let us make our own!" And that is what is being done. Fortunately, there are very few countries nowadays which are prepared to lend themselves to the prositution of their postal issues by agreeing to the sponsoring arrangements of private individuals or concerns, so these gentry are forced to find (possibly even in their own imaginations only) governments without territory whose names they can exploit.

In our belief in a free world, let us grant them their right to evolve, print and distribute as many pretty labels as they like, but let it be made abundantly clear that these emissions are not postage stamps and that their collecting forms no part of the hobby of stamp collecting.

This is the most reasonable attitude that anyone can take. But to endeavor to pass them off as postage stamps at least savors of sharp practice, and indeed, we understand that so far as Britain is concerned, the joint B.P.A.-P.T.S. committee are hoping to find that the 1953 Merchandise Marks Act, which now mentions "false and misleading" descriptions for goods, may give them a legal backing in their campaign.

Be this so or not, we await further news with anxious interest. To conclude, except for giving a warning list of the three lots of labels at present under discussion, let us restate our own opinion. We believe that so far as new issues are concerned the collecting world should take only heed of stamps legitimately issued by ruling governments who have postal services for which they are responsible, and let us emphasize the word "legitimately", for we shall always reserve the right to condemn and ignore stamps which in our opinion deliberately exploit collectors.

List of the Bogus Labels

"Free Albania". Four labels showing Roosevelt, Kastrioti and Sir Winston Churchill, inscribed "SHQIPNIJA" at top and "KOMITETI TE QINDRESES" at bottom. Issued in various colors and some overprinted "1952".

"Free Croatia". Four U.P.U. labels in two designs, printed in red and blue, and blue only, all inscribed "N.D. Hrvatska, 1874-1949 U.P.U."

Two sets of triangular labels inscribed "N.D. HRVATSKA", one postage and one airmail, six values in each showing various birds (air-mail set) and flowers (postage). "South Moluccas". Beware of all labels inscribed "REPUBLIK MALUKU SELATAN". There are at least six Butterfly, five Bird, sixteen Fish and eighteen Animal labels, and we believe, others! The inscription identifies them for what they are. F.S.W.

SMILEATELICS..... Bob Rieker



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865	.04	884	.02	915	.06	934	.06
866	.09	885	.03	916	.09	935	.06
867	.08	886	.04	917	.07	936	.06
868	.90	887	.10	918	.08	937	.06
869	.04	888	.46	919	.07	938	.05
870	.04	889	.05	920	.08	939	.05
871	.15	890	.03	921	.11	940	.05
872	.11	891	.07	922	.05	941	.05
873	.43	892	.32	923	.04	942	.05
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BY CARL P. RUETH

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souri Historical Society which is
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appearing on the Louisiana Pur-
chase commem of 1953 is located.

He is trying to assemble a col-
lection of all United States stamps
on legitimately used covers. He
doubts however, that he will be
able to complete it in his lifetime
unless someone passes a miracle.
Up to now he has everything
from the 1917 perf 11 flat plates un-
watermarked to the Lewis and
Clark of recent date with the ex-
ception of seven items. He has
about 60 of the stamps on cover of
the next early one hundred is-
sues, and a spotty representation
from there back to the 1847's.

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seum and is added to as new ma-
terial is gotten. Practically all of
it has come from Mr. Wreath as a
gift or purchase by him. There
have been some donations.

You Missourians with better than
average state pride and extra cov-
ers might help this project along.
Write Mr. Wreath to see what the
Missouri Historical Society Collec-
tion still needs. And then contribute
brethren, contribute.

1. Which commem first pictured
a dog in the design?
2. Which commem pictures "De-
va Temple"?

Robert Spitzer, Jr. of Detroit,
Mich. received a documentary re-
venue stamp some weeks ago on
which the year date, by overprint-
ing, had not been added. To his
credit he had sufficient philatelic
gumption to start looking for an-
swers.

The Scott Specialized U. S. Cata-
log lists the design as R23. It first
was used in 1940 being overprint-
ed "Series 1940" for that year. In
subsequent years this date was
given the appropriate change. So,
Mr. Spitzer had always seen the
stamp with the date added.

He wrote to the Treasury De-
partment, Bureau of Engraving
and Printing. The answer came
from M. J. Donovan, Chief, Office
of Administrative Services, who
graciously supplied the informa-
tion. He stated: -

"..... On June 12, 1953, the
Acting Commissioner of the Internal
Revenue Bureau requested that
the Bureau of Engraving and Print-
ing deliver documentary stamps of
the 1c through \$20 denominations
without overprinting the series
year. Since that date, we have not
overprinted any stamps of the pre-
scribed denominations with a se-
ries year. Stamps over the \$20 de-
nomination continue to carry the
overprinted series."

Stamps and philately of the Vati-
can are featured this week. This
tiny nation has a great popularity
with collectors for several reasons,
one of the principal being the ease
of completion. There aren't too
many countries which can be com-
pleted, especially when the stamps
are generally attractive.

I had my Vatican all nicely
mounted. Correspondence with Wil-
liam Wonneberger Jr., president of
the Vatican Philatelic Society,
brought on some good suggestions
upon which I tore the collection
down, and have since not had the
time to remount.

My Vaticans always bring a pleas-
ant glow of memory. There is one
series, Scott No. 35 to 40, which is
fairly good merchandise. It was the
first of these stamps I ever pur-
chased - at \$2.05 - and not too
many years ago, either.

Today, these are \$27.50 to \$35
cash on the barrel-head. It is one of
the buys I have made which have
had a substantial increase in value.
The Vatican collection was the
result of my nutty way of going
about such things. When I saw the
set in the sales book at our club
meeting, the desire to buy them,
and to start a Vatican collection
hit at the same time. This same

situation has brought on my other
interests.

Once I get started, I buy further
issues of the country as I see them
at exhibitions, stamp stores or in
the price lists of dealers. These
are filed away in glassine en-
velopes by catalog number. Some
day when I am looking through this
accumulation of sets from various
countries, and it appears I have
about 80 percent of any particular
nation, then I start combing my
information files for write-up ma-
terial. A style is chosen for mount-
ing, and the actual building of
the collection on blank quadrilled
pages begins.

See, I told you it was a nutty
way of doing!

1. The 30c Columbian.
2. This is a rock formation to be
seen on the 2c of the National Parks
set.

Vatican Show At
National Museum

To simultaneously commemorate
the 25th anniversary of the first
Vatican postage stamps of 1929,
and the Marian Year, the National
Philatelic Museum in Philadelphia
will be host to the finest and most
comprehensive exhibition of Vati-
can and related stamps ever pre-
sented in one place at one time.

The exhibition, which will be
under the patronage of His Emi-
nence, Francis Cardinal Spellman,
Archbishop of New York, and is en-
dorsed by Vatican officials, will
use the museum's entire facilities
for one month beginning Septem-
ber 22.

Plans for the remarkable display
have been under way for more
than a year and the preliminary
work already accomplished prom-
ises to make it one of the most
important events ever presented at
the museum.

While in Rome for the canoniza-
tion of St. Pius, Cardinal Spellman
made many important personal ar-
rangements for Vatican postal and
ecclesiastical officials. His Emi-
nence brought back with him some
material, while other displays,
being specially prepared will be
brought to the United States during
the summer months.

In conjunction with the exhibi-
tion, the museum also will publish
a book of no fewer than 200 pages,
under the editorship of Ernest A.
Kehr. It will contain articles of a
philatelic nature, specially pre-
pared and written by the world's
foremost students of Vatican City
and Roman States issues, as well
as features about the Vatican and
Catholicism written by Bishop Ful-
ton J. Sheen, Dr. Harrington and
others in the Vatican or the United
States.

The exhibition will be formally
dedicated by Cardinal Spellman
and Archbishop O'Hara of Philadel-
phia on Wednesday September 22.



Sept. 3-5-American Airmail Society, National
Philatelic Museum, Philadelphia,
Pa. (Convention Dates).

Sept. 6-11-Rutland Co. Stamp Club, Rut-
land Co. Fair Grounds, Rutland, Ver-
mont.

Sept. 10-12-El Paso Stamp Club, "Hospi-
tality Room", Southern Union Gas Co.,
El Paso, Texas.

Sept. 15-18-American Philatelic Society
Convention, Francis Drake Hotel, San
Francisco, Calif.

Sept. 24-26-Trans-Mississippi Philatelic
Society Convention, Hotel Fontenelle,
Omaha, Neb.

Sept. 24-26-Reading Stamp Collectors Club,
Central YMCA, Reading, Pa.

Sept. 24-26-Reading Stamp Collectors
Club, Central YMCA, Reading, Pa.

Sept. 25-26-Mahoning Valley Stamp Club,
Butler Art Institute, Youngstown, Ohio.

Sept. 25-26-Philatelic Society of Cincin-
nati, Sheraton-Sinton Hotel, Cincinnati,
Ohio.

October 2-Northeastern Pa. Philatelic So-
ciety, Hotel Jermyn, Scranton, Pa.

Oct. 2-3-Johnstown Stamp Club, St. Jo-
seph's School Hall, Johnstown, Pa.

Oct. 3-10-Associated Stamp Clubs of the
Chesapeake Area, Maryland Institute of
Art, Baltimore, Md.

Oct. 9-10-Clark County Stamp Club, Neal
Temple, Springfield, Ohio.

Oct. 15-16-New Mexico Philatelic Assn.,
Methodist Church, Santa Fe, N. M. Santa
Fe and Los Alamos Stamp Clubs hosts.

Oct. 15-17-Oklahoma Philatelic Society,
Memorial Bldg., Coffeyville, Kans. Coffeyville
Collectors Club, hosts.

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Kenneth M. Gierhart

P. O. Box 302

Baltimore, Ohio

PRECANCELLED "G"

A reader of Linns, a U. S. spe-
cialist, asks for information on
Scott Nos. 145, 156, 182 and 206 all
precancelled "G". It is a large
letter possibly 24 point type with
serifs and a heavy style.

One must refer to the BAR sec-
tion of Hoovers Part 1 Catalog for
this information. "G" stands for
Glastonbury, Conn. and the user of
these items was the Williams Shav-
ing Soap Co. It is more than a
coincidence that the price of \$10.00
quoted on each item in Scott's is
the same as quoted in the old Hoover
catalog, issued in 1940.

I have nothing much to say on
the price save that few changed
hands at that figure in times past,
but now with the emphasis on
TYPES in precancels it is quite
probable that that sum would be
exceeded in an auction. The only
copies I ever saw were in the ex-
hibitions at the PSS conventions.

The catalog mentions that a 3c
item, the 3c of the 1869 issue, had
been reported, but was never veri-
fied.

PENNY PRECANCELS.

Time was when almost every pre-
cancel dealer had a penny box of
precancels for the customers to
browse through when he set up shop
at the bourse and exhibition. The
terrific use of precancels of both
city type and Bureaus in the late
twenties and early thirties made
this possible. In those days post-
age dues were still legal to pre-
cancel and with the change of issue
there were many varieties of the
dues to dump in the box too as
they were always used in large
quantities.

As the thirties ended and dues
became non-existent the penny box
has all but disappeared. Meters
and dating took its toll of permit
holders and I think I am safe in
saying that few precancel dealers
today could put out a packet of 100
different Prexy locals for one dol-
lar. In fact he could possibly
furnish 100 or more Prexy Bureaus
more handily than the locals.

Ohio Swiss Cheese
Festival Cachet

Other than cheese fanciers and
native citizens, not too many per-
sons know that there is a section
of Ohio in which a very fine grade
of Swiss Cheese is made. This
area is in the east central part of
the state.

Each year a festival is staged by
the many Swiss Cheese producers
which usually gets an attendance
of approximately 50,000 men, wo-
men and children.

For the one this year on October

1930 - - 1954

A quarter of a century of stock-building as-
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1-13	Pope and keys	3.30	154	Provisional14
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35-40	Scarce provisionals	50.00	156-57	Saint Marie20
41-46	Judicial issue	8.75	158-68	E13-14 Popes	1.35
47-54	Catholic Press	5.40	169-70	Saint Claire	.....	.20
55-60	Archaeological issue	1.85	171-72	St. Bernhard	.....	.20
61-67	Interregnum	1.25	173	Pier Lombardo	.....	.27
68-71	Coronation	.36	174-75	25th anniversary	.....	.22
72-76	Pius XII	.15	176-81	Marian year	.....	.23
77-79	Christ issue	.06	182-83	Saint Plus	.....	.29
80-83	Silver Jubilee	.15	B1-4	Holy issue	.....	1.60
84-86	Christ 1943 issue	.06	C1-8	Pictorial airm	.....	.56
87-90	Academy anniversary	.18	C9-15	Pretty air set	.....	.76
91-98	Regular issue	.17	C16-17	Scarce air mail set	.....	5.20
99-101	Christ 1944 issue	.06	C18-19	U.P.U. air mails	.....	4.95
102-09	Provisionals	.22	C20-21	Monk Graziano	.....	3.15
110-21	Cardinals	.35	C22-23	High value airm	.....	3.80
122-31	Basilicas	1.40	E1-2	Special Delivery	.....	.97
132-39	Holy Year	.80	E3-10	Four diff. sets	.....	.31
140-42	Palatinate guard	.65	E11-12	Basilicas spec del.	.....	.33
143-44	Dogma	.36	J1-6	Surcharged dues	.....	1.20
145-48	Beatification	.59	J7-12	Papal arms dues09
149-53	Council of Calcedonia	.86	Q1-15	Parcel post issue	1.30

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10% down and balance at \$10 or more per month.

Send list of broken sets needed ... 100 diff. Vatican \$

A branch of the coffee plant bearing coffee beans is to be seen on a 1947 stamp of Colombia.

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5c Pilgrim	2.50	4.00
5c Walloon	3.00	3.75
5c Lex. Concord	1.50	2.00
5c Norse American	2.60	3.25
5c Ericson90	1.25
5c Hawaii	1.20	1.75
5c Aeronautics55	.70

What else do you need in U.S.?

MICHAEL M. KAREN

1467 GREENPORT ROAD
FAR ROCKAWAY, N. Y.

They Figure Every Item. REPORT FROM THE COUNTRY

Harveys Lake is not reached by subway. However, that is not deterred many interested readers from finding their way to this pleasant part of the stamp world and remaining to become friends.

We like people and as time goes by more and more sellers of stamps have come here to be enchanted by the scenery, charmed by our hospitality and profit by their use of our unique facilities. Facilities that are geared to handle any conceivable type of stamp collection or stock.

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Pier Lombardo, Unknown Archbishop

William Wonneberger, Jr.

With an assist from Edmondo Pizzi

On December 29, 1953 Vatican City released a single stamp of the 100 Lire denomination without any advance notice. The stamp has been generally accepted as the Pier Lombardo issue. No issue of Vatican City to date has caused as much turmoil as this one. Hundreds of collectors have written to find out who Pier Lombardo (Peter Lombard) was, what his works were, and why a stamp was issued in his honor. After months of research, both here and abroad, I am pleased to list all the known facts to date about Peter Lombard and the issuance of this stamp.

The Man—Peter Lombard was born in 1100 at Novara or Lumello, Italy. He studied at Bologna, Rheims and Paris. In 1158-59 he was appointed as Archbishop of Paris but held the office only a very short time. He met his death not later than 1164, (exact date unknown) never returning to Italy, the land of his birth.



Lombard Episcopal Seal

His Works—The works of Peter Lombard, the Archbishop of Paris consisted of:

1. Commentaries on the Psalms of St. Paul.
2. Sermons
3. The Sentences known as "Quartour libri Sententiarum"

It was the Sentences, a theological work covering all theology systematically and well, that gave him his fame. His chief sources of information were Abelard, Francis Gratian (airmail stamps of 1951), Ivo of Chartres, and Alger of Liege. The Sentences were mainly a compilation with less than ten lines being the original work of Archbishop Lombard. It was his aim to compile one book that would end the need of references to many books for information. His works on the Sentences were used up to the sixteenth century as the textbook for university courses and earned for Peter Lombard the title of Magister Sententiarum, (master of the Sentences).



The 100 Lire Lombard commem in red, yellow, green and blue.

The Stamp—The stamp issued as the Pier Lombard stamp depicts the Episcopal Seal he used as Archbishop of Paris. The seal is of white wax (a color very infrequent in Episcopal Seals) and oval in shape. The inscription on it reads "Sigillum Magistri Petri Prisenensis Episcopi". The figure in the center is an effigy of Peter Lombard in Pontifical garb with a banner. His right hand is raised for benediction, while the pastoral crosier is held in his left hand.

The mitre (official headdress of bishops) worn by Peter Lombard and reproduced on the seal is unique. It was the first time the mitre appeared with two horns, a style originated by the Archbishop of Paris. A careful examination of all seals and documents prior to the eleventh century reveals that

no example of the mitre in this style existed before Peter Lombard.

After Peter's inauguration of the horned mitre it was adopted by a number of bishops including: Archbishop Hugo of Rouen (1154), Archbishop Guglielmo of Sens (1169-77), and Bishop Arnolfo of Lisieux (1170). Bishop Arnolfo revised the mitre by adding an ornate cord to separate the two horns.

Among the bishops who wore this revised version of Lombard's mitre were Bishop Cuniberto of Torino, and Bishop Altermanno of Trent.

The style of the mitre with horns began to die out in the second half of the twelfth century. The seal of the Archbishop of Paris, Peter Lombard, is important because it preserves the only known picture of a great person. The original seal is housed in the Archives of Paris.

Stamp Commemoration—While the common name applied to this stamp is "Peter Lombard Issue", it was really issued to mark the seventh centenary of Lombard's "Quartour libri Sententiarum" more commonly known as the Book of Sentences, or the Book of Opinions. The Episcopal Seal of the Archbishop of Paris was chosen as the main design of the stamp as it was reproduced in the libri Sententiarum which this stamp commemorates.

Designing of the Stamp—The reproduction of the seal was the inspiration of Edmondo Pizzi, noted designer of Vatican stamps. In addition he executed the fine scroll-like work and lettering that completes the design.

Dealer ★ Doings

Jacob Habib is now located in offices situated in what has been claimed as the busiest philatelic area in the world. His address is Room 1217, 154 Nassau St., New York 38, N. Y. In stock will be found most of the world's outstanding foreign stamp catalogs, for some of which he is exclusive agent, and foreign stamps of all kinds, mint, used and sets.

United States, Confederates, Canada, Israel and the UN are comprehensively stocked by the Academy Stamp-Coin Shop, 219 N.E. Second Ave., Miami 32, Fla. Their stock also covers the world and contains albums and accessories. The firm feels that, "Stamps and Coins are the picture gallery of a nation's glory." Visitors are urged to drop in for a look.

Lots for the summer time buyer have been prepared by the Jester Stamp Co., Box 423, Milford, Del. and are listed in a bulletin prepared by the firm. Included are various of United States, British Colonies and South America. Also sent without cost is a 96 page illustrated price list of U. S. and B.N.A. stamps in mint and used condition.

Collectors have until October 1 to get their entries in to Leonard C. Utch, 1143 N. Keeler Ave., Chicago 51, Ill. in his International Philatelic Contest. It is open to anyone interested in stamp collecting and not necessarily one of his customers. Substantial philatelic prizes are offered for a 100 word or less essay. Write for the rules.

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286 2c " .25	.03	297 5c Pan Am. 2.25	.95	615 2c Walloon 12.00			
287 4c " .25	.07	298 8c Pan Am. 2.50	1.85	616 5c Walloon 100.00			
288 5c " 2.00	.65	299 10c Pan Am. 3.25	1.10	617 1c Lexington 7.50			
289 8c " 3.00	1.35	323 1c Louisiana .85	.18	618 2c Lexington 13.50			
290 10c " 4.00	.52	324 2c Louisiana .60	.06	619 5c Lexington 48.00			
291 50c " 11.50	3.50	325 3c Louisiana 2.40	2.10	621 5c Norse 180.00			
292 \$1 " 34.00	26.00	326 5c Louisiana 2.80	.85	627 2c Sesqui 10.00			
293 \$2 " 46.00	27.00	327 10c " 7.00	1.80	628 5c Erricsson 31.00			
294 1c Pan Am. .25	.09	328 2c Jamestown .32	.07	630 2c Wh.Pl. Min. 15.00			
295 2c Pan Am. .32	.03	329 5c " 2.80	1.10				

HOBBS STAMP CO.

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New York 38, N. Y.

Vatican Catalog In Preparation

Even before the Vatican Philatelic Society was officially organized, a number of collectors started to gather fragments of information on Vatican stamps with the purpose of issuing a highly specialized catalog of Vatican City as soon as possible after the Society was organized.

When the organization work was completed, with the valuable aid of Carl P. Rueth of Linn's Weekly Stamp News, a special committee was formed under the chairmanship of Peter K. Murphy of Winchester, Mass. The catalog committee has been working for over a year and the first portion of the catalog is now in sight.

Tentative plans call for a complete listing of all Vatican issues with the most complete listing of varieties and errors ever compiled. Full details of each issued will also be printed. This includes the official name, various nicknames given to the issues, first day of issue, final validity, designers, engravers, printers, watermark data, printing method, stamps per pane and source of design.

All major varieties will be illustrated as well as various errors. Great attention has been given to the color problem. All catalogs give the colors of stamps but none provide a reference where the exact shade can be determined. The V.P.S. catalog will provide for this important feature.

Pricing will be given of all normal stamps as singles and sets. A number of the specialist dealers of Vatican City will aid in this important feature. The catalog will be made available in sections, the stamps issued during the Pontificate of Pope Pius XI and the Pontificate of Pius XII.

The catalog will be loose leaf style to permit annual supplements to be added. Prices will be listed on separate pages to keep the catalog from becoming obsolete.

A third section will list post cards, aerogrammes, and fiscal stamps. These items have been neglected in the past and due to the great popularity they now enjoy, a reference work is essential for this material.

While no release date has been set, the catalog is expected to be released in the early part of 1955. Most of the needed data is at hand and only a complete verification is needed before it is published.

This final stage is progressing rapidly to make this badly needed work available to all members of the Vatican Philatelic Society.

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14	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
1.10	.02	.02	.03	.03	.02	.02	.02	.02	.02	.02	.02
106	143	144	145	146	147	148	149	150	151	152	153
.02	.22	.22	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08
107	144	145	146	147	148	149	150	151	152	153	154
.03	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08
108	145	146	147	148	149	150	151	152	153	154	155
.04	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08
109	146	147	148	149	150	151	152	153	154	155	156
.04	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08
110	147	148	149	150	151	152	153	154	155	156	157
.04	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08
111	148	149	150	151	152	153	154	155	156	157	158
.04	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08
112	149	150	151	152	153	154	155	156	157	158	159
.04	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08
113	150	151	152	153	154	155	156	157	158	159	160
.04	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08
114	151	152	153	154	155	156	157	158	159	160	161
.04	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08
115	152	153	154	155	156	157	158	159	160	161	162
.04	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08
116	153	154	155	156	157	158	159	160	161	162	163
.04	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08
117	154	155	156	157	158	159	160	161	162	163	164
.04	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08
118	155	156	157	158	159	160	161	162	163	164	165
.04	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08
119	156	157	158	159	160	161	162	163	164	165	166
.04	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08
120	157	158	159	160	161	162	163	164	165	166	167
.04	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08
121	158	159	160	161	162	163	164	165	166	167	168
.04	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08
122	159	160	161	162	163	164	165	166	167	168	169
.04	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08
123	160	161	162	163	164	165	166	167	168	169	170
.04	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08	.08
124	161	162	163	164	165	166	167	168	169	170	17

PPPPPPPPPP

A Colombia farm, trees and a cow are shown on a set of three stamps issued by that country in 1950 to highlight rural life.

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133-21 Blosom, Flushing, N. Y.



The painting by Casimira Dabrowska of St. Maria Goretti which was used by the Vatican Postal Administration for the set of two issued in 1953 to mark the canonization of the saint. Miss Dabrowska became thereby the first woman ever to design a Vatican stamp.

ELOQUENT

(Continued from page 1)

it was one which Don Bosco resolved to alleviate.

In the year 1841, on the feast of the Immaculate Conception, Don Bosco, then 26, first began his labors among the youth of Italy. His first pupil was one Bartolomeo Gorelli.

With increasing rapidity, more boys joined his Oratory, until by March 1846, it had extended to include over 400 boys. During this period he was appointed assistant chaplain at the "Rifugio" (Refuge for Children), and converted two adjacent rooms into a chapel dedicated to St. Francis de Sales. It was there that members of the Oratory gathered for religious instruction.

After several changes in location, the Oratory eventually was situated in three rooms on the Via Cottoleno. Here, Bosco was joined by his mother who contributed the proceeds from the sale of her home and possessions to assist in his work. This site marked the first Salesian Home.

By 1868, Don Bosco had resolved to found a church in the Voldocco quarter of Turin. When it was consecrated on June 9 of that year, fifty priests and teachers who had been instrumental in his work with boys, formed the Salesian Society.

At the time of Bosco's death on January 31, 1888 there were 130,000 children being cared for in 250 houses of the Society across the world.

Don Bosco was declared Venerable by Pope Pius X in 1907; Blessed, on June 2, 1929, by Pius XI; and canonized a Saint on November 28, 1933.



St. Francis de Sales, pictured on the 1.25L and 5L values, has been called "The Master and Restorer of Sacred Eloquence" by Pope Pius IX, and provided another fitting subject for the Catholic Press Conference issue. Born in 1567, he was the son of an aristocratic old Savoyard family, whom his family intended for the magistracy.

After attending the College of Clermont in Paris, where he studied rhetoric and the humanities, Francis went to Padua to study law and receive his doctorate from Pancirolo in 1592. He was ordained a priest in 1593.

Francis was consecrated Bishop of Geneva in 1602, and instituted catechetical instructions for his flock. In the years which followed, he was instrumental in reforming various religious communities, and lived in great economy in order to more abundantly help the poor.

In 1607, with St. Francis de Chantel, he founded the Institute of the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin, designed primarily for those young women who were not physically capable of the rigors of other re-

ligious communities.

It was in 1622, that he accompanied the members of the Court of Savoy to France, where he later died on December 28 of that year.

His principal works included the Controversies, a series of pamphlets circulated among the people of Le Chablais at a time when they would not come to hear him preach. These, together with his subsequent teaching, were a major factor in the return of a large section of the populace to the Catholic fold.

He also provided a Defense of the Standard of the Cross, a Treatise on the Love of God, and numerous other significant works.

Francis de Sales was beatified in 1661, and canonized in 1665 by Pope Alexander VII. In 1877, he was designated "Doctor of the Universal Church" by Pius IX, and is universally regarded as the Patron of the Catholic Press.

St. Maria Goretti

Canonization of St. Maria Goretti June 24, 1950 attracted more worldwide attention among the Catholic laity than any similar event in recent Church History. With the issuance of a two-stamp series by Vatican City some two years later, renewed interest appeared among collectors and observers alike.



Maria Theresa Goretti began what was to be her short life in the town of Corinaldo, Italy on October 16, 1890. The third of seven children, she lived in severe poverty until, five years later, the family moved to the Pontine Marshes, a swampy location on the outskirts of Rome. But after three years, the Gorettis had fared no better, and again moved on, this time to Ferriere, the small town which was to provide the setting for the events resulting in the canonization of Maria Goretti fifty years hence.

Maria's father, Luigi, looked about in desperation for a home for his family, eventually settling in the home of a Signor Serenelli. Two years later, Luigi died, setting the stage for the events to follow.

In his Canonization sermon of June 24, 1950, Pope Pius XII paused to reflect upon Maria's "ardent longing for the Eucharist", a longing which was fulfilled on the Feast of Corpus Christi in the year 1902. According to biographers, this was the happiest day of her brief life.

Shortly thereafter, there entered into the picture the son of Signor Serenelli, Alexander. During the months and years previous, he had devoted many hours to scanning impure pictures and books. On a number of earlier occasions he had asked Maria to sin with him, and had been denied by her. "No, it is a sin! God does not want it!" So, when on July 5, 1902 he was again rebuffed, he inflicted upon Maria fourteen stab wounds.

In Nettuno, doctors attempted to save her life, but after twenty hours, while she prayed for and

forgave Alexander, Maria died on July 6.

During the Holy Year of 1950, at the time of her canonization, Pope Pius XII designated St. Maria Goretti as the Patroness of Modern Youth, describing "... as the crown of her charity ... the heroic pardon granted to the man who murdered her ...", and adding, "... in you ... all young people will find safe refuge."

VATICAN PHILATELY

(Continued from page 1)

means if purchased as single stamps if the complete set can not be afforded at one time. This chance of having a complete collection of a country is one reason for the tremendous following of Vatican philately.

Contrary to the opinion of many, the Vatican has a conservative stamp issuing policy. The country has been in existence for twenty-five years and has issued a total of 255 stamps or approximately ten a year. Of this total number, 36 were issued upon the birth of the nation to provide a complete series of stamps for the various needs such as regular mail, special delivery, parcel post, and postage dues.

Airmail stamps were not issued until 1938 in spite of the fact that airmail service was in operation before then.

Commemorative stamps are not issued in a careless way, either. The subjects of the commemorative issues have been chosen for their importance in Church History and to call attention to important gatherings, such as the Holy Year of 1950 and the three major international congresses in the late thirties.

To date only 23 airmail stamps have been issued. Most of these have been due to increases of postal rates. Regular issues are replaced approximately every five years and all are of needed denominations. In some cases the theme of the regular postage series has been of a commemorative nature, the Council of Trent issue, for example. There we have a second reason for collecting Vatican stamps.

The eye appeal of the various stamps plays an important role in the fact that Vatican stamps grace a very large number of album pages. The greatest number are in bi-color, including regular issues. The color combinations are skillfully chosen and befitting the subject. Practically all the methods used for printing modern stamps have been used by the Vatican to insure the beauty of its miniatures of art.

The designs of the stamps are executed by the best designers available and in no way resemble some of the designs of other countries that include everything but the kitchen sink. The design has a simple major theme with only the ornate border and necessary inscriptions added.

The religious theme of Vatican issues accounts for some of their following. While Catholicism reigns as the religion from which all of the subjects are chosen, the events portrayed are usually in agreement with those of the non-Catholic faith. This accounts for the large number of ministers and rabbis who also enjoy collecting Vatican stamps as well as the laymen of other beliefs.

While no true stamp collector will assemble a collection for mainly financial gains, this chance of obtaining a monetary reward plays a part in choosing a field. Vatican stamps provide one of the best possible fields for such a gain. For example the provisionals of 1934 (Scott #35-40) enjoyed a retail price of approximately one dollar in the late thirties and early forties, today they bring between fifty and sixty dollars a set.

Price increases are not limited to the earlier issues however. Current issues also rise rapidly, for example the set of stamps commemorating St. Maria Goretti (156-57) issued in 1953 has increased 40% in price in a little over a year. These are not isolated examples of stamps increasing in value but to a degree is true of all Vatican issues.

While a complete collection of Vatican stamps can be assembled in a very short period of time, the collector of this field does not have to be content with waiting for new issues. There are numerous segments that enjoy a great following in this country. This includes first day covers, commercial covers, varieties, errors, postal stationery, and in the last few years maximum cards. Many of the items, including first day covers of very recent issues are hard to come by. The hunt for items in any of these fields is enjoyable and exciting.

Research plays a star role in Vatican philately. Each issue of stamps has an interesting and exciting story behind it. Many of these stories are more exciting than current mystery thrillers. Such research is not limited to a

simple few lines found in an encyclopedia but can extend to cover volumes of interesting facts and stories behind any issue.

The final crown for reasons to collect Vatican stamps was made possible by the formation of the Vatican Philatelic Society. This friendly group of Vatican collectors enjoys the latest in information in its monthly publication, corresponding with other collectors of the philately of the Vatican, and a chance to have their questions and problems answered.

Don't you agree that this is a wonderful field to specialize in?



LEONARD EPSTEIN

22 Beaver St., New York 4, N. Y.

EGYPT — It is expected that a single stamp or set of stamps will be issued by this country commemorating the recently concluded agreement between Egypt and Britain, in which Britain agreed to leave the Suez Canal.

GERMANY — A 20 pfennig red stamp has been issued marking the anniversary date of July 20, 1944. This was the day an attempt was made to assassinate Hitler.

INDIA — Four stamps and four postal stationery items will be issued for the celebration of India's Postal Centenary in October. They will be: 1 anna, red purple, picturing three methods of mail transportation — a runner, camel and bullock cart; 2 anna, carmine, a pigeon carrying an envelope, and an airplane; 4 anna, light brown, four methods of mail transportation — steamer, postman on a bicycle, railroad and an airplane; the 14 anna, dark blue same design as the 2 anna.

In the way of Postal Stationery, the following will be issued: — A 1 1/2 anna internal air letter card, in blue; a 2 anna envelope with red lettering; a 2 anna embossed commercial size envelope, airmail and a 14 anna airmail envelope. The airmail envelopes will have the inscription "Indian Postage Stamp Centenary 1854-1954."

ITALY — The 30th anniversary of the death of Socialist martyr, Giacomo Matteotti, who was murdered by the Fascists on June 10, 1924, will be marked by the issuance of a single stamp. A single stamp will also be issued marking the elevation of the Church of St. Francis of Assisi to a Patriarchal Basilica.

JAPAN — In commemoration of the Ninth National Athletic Meeting to be held at Sapporo, Hokkaido on August 22, two engraved stamps of 5 yen, se tenant, will be issued. The designs feature archery and ping pong. There has as yet been no announcement as to colors.

SPAIN — In honor of the Marian Year, a nine value set of stamps is being issued. On July 19, the first two values of the set appeared and the 80c value is expected to appear shortly. The last will be issued on October 12 for "Stamp Day and Race Day."

Values and designs, all picturing statues of the Blessed Virgin, of the set are as follows: — 10c Purification, of Alonso Cano in the Cathedral of Granada; 15c "Nuestra Señora de Begona," Bilbao; 25c "Nuestra Señora de los Desamparados" of the Valencia Cathedral; 30c "The Black Virgin of Montserrat"; 50c "The Pillar Virgin" of Zaragoza; 60c "The Covadonga Virgin" in the Sanctuary of Covadonga; 80c "The Virgin of the Kings" in the Cathedral of Sevilla; 1 Peseta, "The Almudena Virgin," Madrid and 3 Pesetas, "The Guadalupe Virgin" in the monastery of Guadalupe.

Bay City Cachet For Rice Festival

For the annual Rice Festival at Bay City, Texas the Bay City Stamp Club has prepared cachets which will be made available to all collectors. The event is scheduled for October 1 and 2 — the club has a different cachet for each day. Payments of 20c, and name and address, are to be sent to secretary Mrs. V. C. Glenn, 1941 Seventh, Bay City, Texas. This sum covers both days.

CORRECTION NOTICE

The Fleetwood Cover Service, Pleasantville, N. Y. calls attention to an error which occurred in their ad on page seven of the August 23 edition.

The date of August 1 was shown for the 1c Washington stamp. This is incorrect. The correct date is August 26. Please refer to that ad for offers on first day covers.

A stamp of Chile shows grazing sheep.

NEW AND RECENT ISSUES

Argentina—Peron Stock Exchange 2v	30
Australia—Centenary 1v	86
Austria—Welsbach, Rottmayr 2v	18
Colombia—Olympics 4v	35
France—Famous Men 1v	75
France—St. Cyr 1v	08
Finland—Edelfelt 1v	14
Germany—St. Boniface, Stamp Day 2v	22
Hungary—Aviation Day 8v	93
Ireland—Newman 2v	30
Israel—Herzl 1v	14
Italy—Marco Polo, Catalani 3v	31
Jugoslavia—Stamp Day 1v	28
Mozambique—Maps 8v	227
Paraguay—Church 11v	84
Paraguay—Church, miniature sheet 2v	84
Portuguese Col.—Presidents Visit 4v	85
Portuguese Col.—Sao Paulo Cent. 8v	80
Spain—Marlian Year 2v	04
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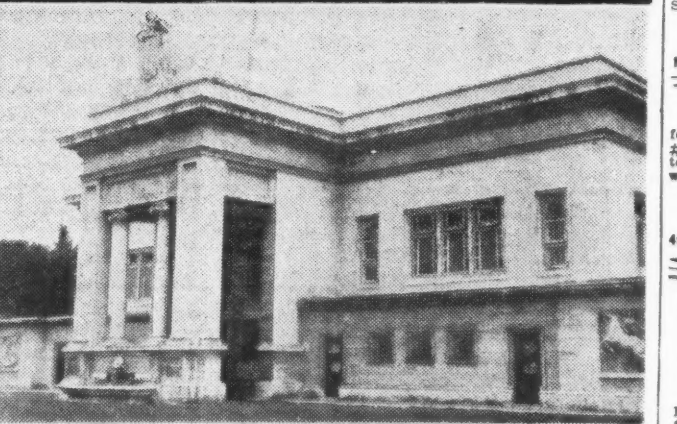
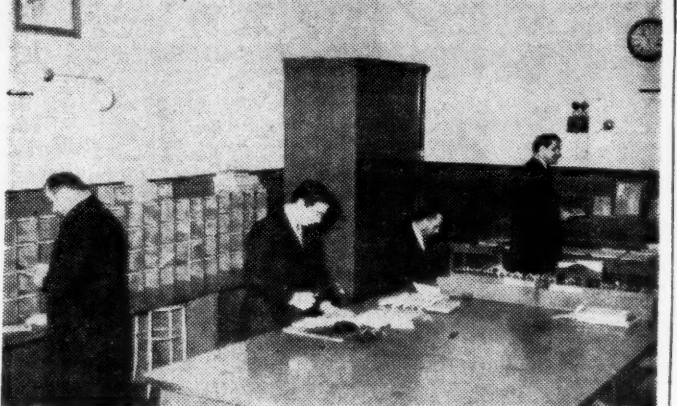
(LEONARD EPSTEIN)

22 Beaver Street

New York 4, N. Y.



VATICAN STATE SCENES. At the top is shown the front of the Vatican Governorate (government building) which houses the agencies necessary for the functions of the State of Vatican City. Second, a front view of the main Vatican post office. It has one floor only and also houses the telegraph. There are four sub-stations in various parts of the state. Third, an interior view of the main post office where the regular activities in the handling of incoming and outgoing mail are carried out. Fourth, is the building which houses the Pope's own radio station HJ.V. It is located in the building which formerly housed the observatory, since moved to the Castel Gandolfo, summer residence of the Pope. At bottom, a front view of the Vatican railroad station. It was erected by the Italian Government in 1931 as a gesture of good will. The exterior is of white marble while the royal waiting room is in white, yellow, green and pink pastel marble. No passenger has ever arrived or departed from this building — contact with the outside world is mainly by automobile. However, several times a week freight trains loaded with supplies for the Vatican enter the State on the Vatican's own railroad.



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References, Richard Borden, Box 141

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R40a	1.15	R5B	.24		R11C	.24	R46C	.06	R89C	.35	R125	1.30	R182	.09	R235	.02	RB11B	.06	RC26	.90	RD32	.15	RE41	1.00	RE108	.16	RF19	.75
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R45a	.33	R13B	10.95		R14C	1.95	R50C	1.50	R95C	1.40	R132	2.00	R189	27.00	R241	.02	RB13a	.90	RC26	.90	RD32	.15	RE41	1.00	RE108	.16	RF19	.75
R46a	.50	R19B	.30		R14C	4.40	R50C	2.75	R95C	5.00	R133	.20	R190	.32	R242	.13	RB13a	.90	RC26	.90	RD32	.15	RE41	1.00	RE108	.16	RF19	.75
R47a	1.40	R22B	4.95		R15C	.02	R51C	1.98	R96C	1.30	R134	1.30	R191	.17	R243	1.50	RB13a	.90	RC26	.90	RD32	.15	RE41	1.00	RE108	.16	RF19	.75
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R49a	.70	R24B	1.65		R16C	.13	R53C	.22	R97C	.65	R135	.02	R194	80.00	R244	.05	RB14a	.40	RC26	.90	RD32	.15	RE41	1.00	RE108	.16	RF19	.75
R50a	1.10	R25B	.16		R16C	.26	R53C	.60	R98C	2.00	R135B	.00	R195	.42	R244	.60	RB14a	.40	RC26	.90	RD32	.15	RE41	1.00	RE108	.16	RF19	.75
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R52a	2.85	R32B	6.85		R18C	.14	R54C	.05	R100C	7.25	R137	.07	R197	.03	R246	.55	RB15C	.20	RC26	.90	RD32	.15	RE41	1.00	RE108	.16	RF19	.75
R53a	40.00	R33B	2.65		R18C	.15	R54C	.05	R101C	6.75	R138	.90	R198	2.50	R246	5.00	RB15C	.20	RC26	.90	RD32	.15	RE41	1.00	RE108	.16	RF19	.75
R54a	.89	R33B	4.65		R19C	.05	R55C	.08	R102C	.00	R139	.78	R199	.11	R247	1.50	RB15C	.20	RC26	.90	RD32	.15	RE41	1.00	RE108	.16	RF19	.75
R55a	2.35	R36B	.18		R20C	.09	R56C	.27	40.00		R140	.50	R200	.04	R247	7.95	RB15C	.20	RC26	.90	RD32	.15	RE41	1.00	RE108	.16	RF19	.75
R57a	.89	R37B	1.15		R20C	.14	R56C	1.00			R141	.65	R201	.03	R248	.25	RB15C	.20	RC26	.90	RD32	.15	RE41	1.00	RE108	.16	RF19	.75
R58a	.95	R40B	.43		R21C	15.50	R57C	.00	Silk Paper		R142	.15	R202	.04	R248	.25	RB15C	.20	RC26	.90	RD32	.15	RE41	1.00	RE108	.16	RF19	.75
R59a	.90	R42B	1.50		R22C	.45	R58C	.08	R3D	1.00	R143	1.35	R203	.09	R249	5.75	RB15C	.20	RC26	.90	RD32	.15	RE41	1.00	RE108	.16	RF19	.75
R60a	1.14	R43B	1.20		R22C	.45	R58C	.08	R10C	.20	R144	.15	R204	.04	R250	2.70	RB15C	.20	RC26	.90	RD32	.15	RE41	1.00	RE108	.16	RF19	.75
R61a	2.75	R43B	.16		R23C	.04	R58C	.08	R18D	.90	R145	.55	R205	.88	R251	.07	RB15C	.20	RC26	.90	RD32	.15	RE41	1.00	RE108	.16	RF19	.75
R62a	.95	R44B	.22		R23C	.05	R59C	.06	R18D	.90	R146	.15	R206	.10	R252	.04	RB15C	.20	RC26	.90	RD32	.15	RE41	1.00	RE108	.16	RF19	.75
R63a	7.25	R45B	2.60		R24C	.02	R59C	.15	R18D	.90	R147	1.65	R207	.02	R253	.45	RB15C	.20	RC26	.90	RD32	.15	RE41	1.00	RE108	.16	RF19	.75
R64a	2.70	R46B	3.55		R25C	.05	R60C	.08	R18D	.90	R148	.80	R208	.02	R254	.05	RB15C	.20	RC26	.90	RD32	.15	RE41	1.00	RE108	.16	RF19	.75
R65a	14.50	R47B	4.50		R25C	.05	R60C	.08	R18D	.90	R149	4.75	R209	.07	R255	.12	RB19B		RC27	.07	RD17	.05	RE12	.22	RE77a	.55	RE109	1.00
R66a	.40	R48B	1.40		R25C	.10	R61C	.10	R18D	.90	R150	26.00	R210	.10	R256	.19	RB20	14.50	RC28	.18	RD17	.05	RE12	.22	RE77a	.55	RE109	1.00
R67a	1.15	R49B	9.00		R26C	.05	R62C	1.45	R18D	.90	R151	.02	R211	.03	R256	.50	RB20	14.50	RC28	.18	RD17	.05	RE12	.22	RE77a	.55	RE109	1.00
R68a	2.95	R50B	1.40		R26C	.05	R62C	1.45	R18D	.90	R152	.02	R212	.03	R257	4.00	RB20	14.50	RC28	.18	RD17	.05	RE12	.22	RE77a	.55	RE109	1.00
R69a	.63	R51B	12.00		R27C	.03	R63C	.10	R18D	.90	R153	.14	R213	.15	R258	.85	RB20	14.50	RC28	.18	RD17	.05	RE12	.22	RE77a	.55	RE109	1.00
R70a	1.10	R52B	.28		R28C	.38	R64C	.42	R18D	.90	R154	.02	R214	.10	R258	.85	RB20	14.50	RC28	.18	RD17	.05	RE12	.22	RE77a	.55	RE109	1.00
R71a	6.00	R53B	.08		R28C	2.00	R64C	1.00	R18D	.90	R155	.02	R215	.10	R258	.85	RB20	14.50	RC28	.18	RD17	.05	RE12	.22	RE77a	.55	RE109	1.00
R72a	.90	R55B	1.05		R29C	.88	R65C	.38	R18D	.90	R156	.02	R216	.10	R258	.85	RB20	14.50	RC28	.18	RD17	.05	RE12	.22	RE77a	.55	RE109	1.00
R73a	.69	R57B	3.20		R30C	.28	R66C	.19	R18D	.90	R157	.02	R217	.10	R258	.85	RB20	14.50	RC28	.18	RD17	.05	RE12	.22	RE77a	.55	RE109	1.00
R74a	8.25	R58B	2.40		R32C	1.00	R67C	.17	R18D	.90	R158	.02	R218	.10	R258	.85	RB20	14.50	RC28									

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D39D	14.
D40D	2.

D39D	14.
D40D	2.

D46E	14.0
D49a	14.0

D46E	14.0
D49a	14.0

0528	1.0
054H	2.0
055	

0528	1.0
054H	2.0
055	

.40

.40

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